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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

UNITED STATES COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SACRAMENTO HOMELESS UNION, a
local of the CALIFORNIA HOMELESS
UNION/STATEWIDE ORGANIZING
COUNCIL, on behalf of itself and those it
represents,

Plaintiffs

vs.

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO, a political
subdivision of the State of California; CITY
OF SACRAMENTO, a municipal corporation;
DOES 1 – 100,

Defendants

Case No.: 2:22-cv-01095-TLN-KJN

**DECLARATION OF CRYSTAL
SANCHEZ IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFFS' REPLY TO CITY'S
OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS' MOTION
FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF TO
PREVENT LIFE-THREATENING HEAT-
RELATED INJURIES AND DEATHS TO
MEMBERS OF THE SACRAMENTO
HOMELESS COMMUNITY**

Hon. Judge Troy L. Nunley

DECLARATION OF CRYSTAL SANCHEZ

I, CRYSTAL SANCHEZ, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am President of the Sacramento Homeless Union. I have been organizing support for the homeless here in Sacramento for twenty years and am intimately and personally familiar with the particular conditions being faced by hundreds of people and, by way of reliable reports from our officers and leads, I am familiar with the conditions of thousands of Sacramento County's homeless.

Declaration of Crystal Sanchez

- 1 2. Our Union provides outreach to over 392 encampments in the Sacramento area both
2 within the city jurisdiction and the county jurisdiction. We have partnered with the
3 county and given input around sanitation including water porta potties and trash as well
4 as aided in the encampment team pilot in which some of the county agencies owners
5 were brought to some of our local Union encampments where they were able to pilot
6 their program. While we have seen a vast improvement within the county there are still
7 some major issues that need to be addressed including the respite and water situations.
8
- 9 3. Every year we face the same failures over the lack of respite cooling centers. Right now,
10 the lack of sufficient and accessible cooling center is causing great suffering in the
11 homeless community.
- 12 4. The failure to provide accessible cooling centers is made worse by the continuing
13 sweeps of the homeless and clearing of encampments by the City and County through
14 Sacramento Police, Dept. of Utilities, Code enforcement and contractors such as
15 “Foreniclean.” These sweeps are cutting people off from access of water supplied by our
16 Union and other community volunteers and churches. As the City admitted yesterday, all
17 shelters are full.
- 18
- 19 5. Tonight I was present when Union Pacific Railroad Police began clearing hundreds of us
20 away from the railroad tracks. California Highway Patrol officers distributed a handful
21 of “Sacramento Homeless Resources” cards, attached hereto as Exhibit A. There isn’t a
22 single cooling shelter listed.
- 23
- 24 6. The respite issues are not a new. Up until June 15th 2022 the County of Sacramento
25 practiced cruel temperature specifications for respites these included 3 consecutive days
26 above 105° as well as three consecutive days below freezing temperatures of 32° before
27 a Respite center would be opened. Due to these circumstances many people have died on
28 the streets. The Sacramento homeless unions position on the new weather requirement is

1 that it has given them even more room to not have to open respite to those living on the
2 streets, seniors or those who have the need for respite. The wording is not definitive and
3 holds no real requirement and leaves for no accountability. The lack of cooling centers
4 has left thousands of people on the street to potentially die under the medical
5 circumstances as described by Dr. Flojuane Cofer in her declaration in support of our
6 motion for injunctive relief. We have fought civilly for them to open these centers yet
7 instead of taking all appropriate measures to open them they find ways in which they do
8 not have to. Due to the impacts of climate the asphalt stays at about 140 plus degrees on
9 hot days and on cooler days about 120. Inside the motorhomes the temperatures are
10 elevated especially when motorhomes have been swept from underneath shaded areas.
11 We must remember that tents only have a thin layer of tarp on the bottom so people are
12 directly laying on asphalt in a sense.
13

- 14 7. We have met with the county to discuss the situation around sanitation there have been
15 times where they wanted to stop it completely due to funding issues. Because the staff is
16 primarily all new during these meetings they have told us what we already know because
17 we helped implement it to begin with. The response of the city and the county is so far
18 off from the actual need. They are not in these encampments, they do not see people
19 melting in chairs basically they do not see the children showing symptoms of heat
20 stroke, they do not see the seniors in wheelchairs with ulcers and sores from sweating
21 and no way to clean them, in fact they do everything in their power to make it so they
22 don't have to see them. People are dying due to weather related conditions as the coroner
23 has reported. During the current heat waves, I have personally summoned paramedics
24 for persons in obvious extreme heat distress. We need the county to step in immediately
25 with a better policy that includes 24/7 respite on any days that are over 90°
26
27
28

1 8. I did go to four encampments and collect data for a few days. I want to emphasize again
2 when the weather restrictions say moderate most of the days that we looked stated
3 except for in the high-risk categories. Also moderate temperature was for the air, not for
4 the asphalt and shift tent and living conditions people are living in. If this was a business
5 or a labor related gauge the businesses would be shut down due to extreme heat inside.

6 9. While I am not going to go over every temperature that we collected I would like to
7 point out the encampment at Evergreen. The first night we bought the infrared
8 temperature gauge we went out to one of the camps we work with that is constantly hit
9 with vehicle removals sweeps and more. At 709 p.m. we went out in the shade it was
10 still 101.5° in the sun it was 120.4° inside one of our union members tents it was still
11 102.6, and in the RV with cardboard insulated Windows it was 115.7. they were swept
12 on 6/23/2022 just 3 days prior were they all had to move around. The situation with the
13 tent and RV that I tested is critical for the courts to know. We have a mother, father,
14 autistic twins and two other children at this encampment. We were able to get the mother
15 and father and children into a local hotel. The mother and father both work and because
16 of the program they are not allowed to have anybody come and watch their children.
17 Therefore they need to bring the children to the encampment to be watched so they can
18 work by the mother's mom.

19
20
21 10. As far as police sweeps are concerned, the Union has over the last two years canvassed
22 dozens of camps and obtained over 125 statements sworn and signed under penalty of
23 perjury showing that Sacramento Police, Sacramento Dept. of Utilities, Code
24 Enforcement and County sheriffs have continued to conduct sweeps despite being under
25 a July, 2020 Order for Writ of Mandate to refrain from removing homeless persons or
26 clearing encampments. We will file a list of these declarants and provide their statements
27 in declaration form should the Court require us to do so. Some of the most recent were
28

1 obtained in the last few days and show that sweeps are occurring daily and no one is
2 being provided with information about let alone being aided in going to a cooling
3 shelter.

4 I swear and affirm under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and the State Pa
5 of California that this is statement is true and based on personal knowledge. - 5

6 Dated: July 23, 2022

7 Executed at Sacramento, CA

/s/ Crystal Sanchez

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Declaration of Crystal Sanchez

Exhibit A



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DOES 1 – 100,

Defendants

Case No.: 2:22-cv-01095-TLN-KJN

**DECLARATION OF BETTY RIOS IN
SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' REPLY TO
CITY'S OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS'
MOTION FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF TO
PREVENT LIFE-THREATENING HEAT-
RELATED INJURIES AND DEATHS TO
MEMBERS OF THE SACRAMENTO
HOMELESS COMMUNITY**

Hon. Judge Troy L. Nunley

DECLARATION OF BETTY RIOS

I, BETTY RIOS, hereby declare as follows:

1. My name is Betty Rios and I have been a Sacramento Homeless Union leader of the Stockton SOS camp for 3 years. In 2019 approximately 200 of my camp members and myself started organizing to fight for housing now and no more death on the streets as we are constantly tormented by the laws and policies put in place that are directly impacting Our lives. As a Union officer and years-long supporter of my homeless

Declaration of Betty Rios

1 community, I have deep, personal knowledge of the conditions of hundreds of Union
2 members and supporters.

3 2. I have personally been swept dozens times by Sacramento Police, City Code
4 Enforcement, County Park Rangers and other law enforcement agencies, even after the
5 Court issued a Writ of Mandate to stop the sweeps. These sweep are continuing even
6 now during the extreme heat wave. These sweeps have the effect of scattering hundreds
7 of homeless persons who were actually receiving things necessary to survive the heat
8 wave such as food, coverings and especially water. Members of the Homeless Union,
9 Church and community members who have been able to bring water to large numbers of
10 people in one location cannot do that any longer because the sweeps by Sac P.D., City
11 Code, Utilities Dept enforcement and others have dispersed us all over town. The city
12 won't provide us with water and now they are preventing community volunteers from
13 providing us with water.
14

15
16 3. Since 2019 when we made national news for a large sweep in which many of us lived on
17 the property prior to the old hotel and trailer park being torn down, we have been swept
18 over 78 times. We have lost over 30 encampment members including to weather related
19 incidences after sweeps since 2019.

20 4. I currently live off of Morrison Creek. We are swept on a regular basis, including during
21 the hottest days, and not offered any real time services or transportation to any cooling
22 centers.
23

24 5. During one of the sweeps I was moved into the City's "Safe Ground" which was not safe
25 at all in fact it placed me in greater danger. People were being trafficked out of the site.
26 We asked for basic needs such as water and oftentimes were given such a limited
27 amount it wasn't enough for all of us. We were placed on hot asphalt underneath the
28 freeway. Eventually they moved people out of the X Street safe ground and placed them

1 at Miller Park. I have been to that location; during last week's heat wave the
2 temperatures inside the "Safeground" tents was over 110 degrees as measured by
3 Homeless Union officers using professional thermometers. During an earlier heatwave
4 the City provided transportation for a few to cooling centers. But in the last two
5 heatwaves, they did not offer any transportation to cooling centers and have not
6 increased the amount of water being provided. People are suffering thirst and heat stress.
7

- 8 6. City code enforcement is using contractors such as "Forensiclean" and others using
9 bulldozers, skiploaders and garbag trucks to destroy our possessions. Sometimes they
10 hand out 72-hour notices, but when there is nowhere to go, what good does that do us?
11 Other times they just show up, tell us to hurry up and pack and get out. No services are
12 offered, no transportation to cooling shelters or anywhere else where we can go to
13 survive the heat.
14
15 7. and Sac PD are always in our camps harassing us, threatening us, and making it known
16 that we are unwelcome. Has been no offers of respite and we are never told when they're
17 even available. Most of the time cooling centers are extremely far away up to 3 miles
18 and its unaccessible for us because we would that far to cool off and be suffering in the
19 heat on the hot asphalt all the way since the City is not providing any transportation. No
20 wonder these cooling centers are almost empty.
21
22 8. I have medical conditions and so do many of the people in our encampments here in the
23 Stockton boulevard area. I fear for my life and my family's life. When they come and tag
24 us and threaten us we literally panic, cry, stress out, and overexert ourselves just to
25 protect what little stuff we have. It feels like torture. None of us want to be on the streets
26 but we also don't want to be kettled into places that are more dangerous or in congregate
27 settings. Many of us have been on the streets and have been victimized in these settings
28 that are not realistic for us. The safe grounds in my opinion as somebody who formally

1 stayed there are a joke why are we spending so much money to keep people in tents on
2 hot asphalt instead of providing the resources that are needed like housing and wrap
3 around services. We don't trust any of the entities when they do occasionally come to the
4 camps with the exception of the Sacramento homeless Union at this point. The city and
5 the county and all of their navigation systems have lied to us over and over. I have lost
6 over 30 people from my encampment in 3 years to death on the streets. Generally three
7 days after any sweep we see somebody die. It breaks up our camps and people disperse
8 wherever they can go this often leads to people being preyed on. I'm writing the
9 statement and hopes that the court hears us and stops the torture to the thousands of
10 people living on the Street in Sacramento. I go to City Council and I've been to meetings
11 across the state trying to voice what is happening to us on the streets. The cities and
12 counties continue to collect money off of us who are suffering on the streets we need the
13 courts help to protect us because we are not being heard.
14
15

16 I swear and affirm under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and the State
17 of California that this is statement is true and based on personal knowledge.

18 Dated: July 23, 2022

/s/Betty Rios

19 Executed at Sacramento, CA
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DOES 1 – 100,

Defendants

Case No.: 2:22-cv-01095-TLN-KJN

**DECLARATION OF MIKE LOPEZ IN
SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S REPLY TO
CITY'S OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS'
MOTION FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF TO
PREVENT LIFE-THREATENING HEAT-
RELATED INJURIES AND DEATHS TO
MEMBERS OF THE SACRAMENTO
HOMELESS COMMUNITY**

DECLARATION OF MIKE LOPEZ

I, MIKE LOPEZ, hereby declare as follows:

1. I was born on March 6th, 1986. I currently reside along Roseville Road near a golf course across from the railroad tracks. I have been unhoused off and on since I was 19 years old. I previously stayed near Arden Way but I was forced to move by the Sacramento City Police and so now I have to go back and forth between here and Arden Way when we are forced to

Declaration of Mike Lopez

1 move. I suffer from bad knees and feet in which I am supposed to have surgery but have
2 been unable to because I don't have anywhere stable to go after surgery.

3 2. During this extreme heat, I have been actively trying to pursue shelter or a cooling center for
4 respite, or any type of assistance but it is impossible to navigate the systems. We were told
5 to call 311 but when you do, they do not give you resources to help you get through the
6 chaos of the sweeps or emergency needs.

7
8 3. The police never tell us where we can go: they just tell us we can't be here. I am aware of
9 my rights and I do know that Martin versus Boise says that I can be on public property as
10 long as there's no shelter available. I also know that they are supposed to store all of my
11 belongings, yet they never do and I have to start over every time they come and take our
12 belongings.

13 4. At no time during the heat waves we have experienced has the City or County come here
14 and give us information about cooling centers or how to get there, or offer transportation,
15 which I would need on account of my bad knees, and can't walk far. At no time has any
16 County or City employees brought us any water. Only the Homeless Union and sometimes
17 Church groups bring water, but it's not enough, especially when its so hot.

18
19 5. I would go to a cooling center if they would provide transportation.
20

21 I swear and affirm under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and the State
22 of California that this is statement is true and based on personal knowledge.

23 Dated: July 23, 2022

/s/Mike Lopez

24 Executed at Sacramento, CA
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Declaration of Mike Lopez

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DOES 1 – 100,

Defendants

Case No.: 2:22-cv-01095-TLN-KJN

**DECLARATION OF JOSEPH STENMAN
IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S REPLY
TO CITY'S OPPOSITION TO
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR
INJUNCTIVE RELIEF TO PREVENT
LIFE-THREATENING HEAT-RELATED
INJURIES AND DEATHS TO MEMBERS
OF THE SACRAMENTO HOMELESS
COMMUNITY**

DECLARATION OF JOSEPH STENMAN

I, JOSEPH STENMAN, declare as follows:

1. My name is Joseph Stenman. I am a 65-year old disabled man currently unhoused with my service dog in Sacramento, California near Roseville Road living in an encampment. The residents of this encampment are constantly approached by Sacramento Police Department, City code enforcement and County Park Rangers. We are often threatened and told to move and have not been given any citations or any resources.

Declaration of Joseph Stenman

2. During the days when it has been hot, I have asked for resources from police including a place to cool off in this extreme heat. I have asked for water and been told by law enforcement that they don't have any to provide for me or my dog. I was told to call 311. I do not have access to a phone but did use a friend's phone but the operator at 311 had no immediate resources for me.
3. Every time Sacramento Police and Code enforcement sweep us or take all of our stuff, I have to start all over which is very hard. I have chronic medical conditions including kidney stones, heart stents, a lump on my chest and I have a bleeding disorder. The heat makes these conditions worse.
4. When police do sweeps, they take our tents and everything else. My tent gives me some relief from the sun, so when they take our tents, we are left in the hot sunlight or have to walk around looking for shade somewhere. This is very hard for me given my health conditions. No one from the City or County has brought water to this encampment during any of the hottest days.
5. No one from the City of Sacramento or the County has come here and offered to take us to a cooling center or even told us where the cooling centers are. I would definitely be willing to go to a cooling center resources if my dog, who is my service animal, would be allowed to go.

I swear and affirm under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and the State of California that this is statement is true and based on personal knowledge.

Dated: July 22, 2022

/s/Joseph Stenman

Executed at Sacramento, CA

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EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

SACRAMENTO HOMELESS UNION, a
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UNION/STATEWIDE ORGANIZING
COUNCIL, on behalf of itself and those it
represents; BETTY RIOS; DONTA
WILLIAMS; FALISHA SCOTT and all those
similarly situated,

Plaintiffs

vs.

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO, a political
subdivision of the State of California; CITY
OF SACRAMENTO, a municipal corporation;
and DOES 1 – 100,

Defendants

Case No.: 2:22-cv-01095-TLN-KJN

**SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF
FALISHA SCOTT IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFF'S REPLY TO DEFENDANT
CITY OF SACRAMENTO'S
OPPOSITION TO
PLAINTIFFS' EMERGENCY
APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY
RESTRAINING ORDER AND
MANDATORY INJUNCTION TO
PREVENT LIFE-THREATENING HEAT-
RELATED HARM TO MEMBERS OF
THE SACRAMENTO HOMELESS
COMMUNITY**

SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF FALISHA SCOTT

I, FALISHA SCOTT, hereby swear and affirm that the following is a true and correct
statement based on personal knowledge and otherwise on information and belief.

1. I am a resident of the "Safeground" encampment located Miller Park in the City of

Sacramento and a named plaintiff in this case. This encampment was set up by the City

1 of Sacramento and is operated by First Step Communities, a contractor for the City of
2 Sacramento. I am one of about fifty homeless persons who live in small tents pushed
3 side by side on an asphalt parking lot.

4 2. On June 23, 2022, I signed a Declaration in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Injunctive
5 relief describing the dangerous conditions at the Miller Park Safe Ground.

6 3. As of today, exactly one month later, the conditions described in my original declaration
7 have only gotten worse. No one from First Step Communities, the City of Sacramento,
8 the County of Sacramento has come here to investigate or take steps to improve the
9 conditions I described in my first declaration.
10

11 4. In the excessive heat that has occurred in the last month, our tents, including mine, are
12 unbearably hot, with temperatures around 110 degrees Fahrenheit as measured by
13 Crystal Sanchez using a professional electronic thermometer. There is still not enough
14 water and we are still not receiving any breakfast while other food is limited.

15 5. For the convenience of the Court, the remainder of this Declaration restates the
16 conditions that I described in my first declaration.

17 6. "Safeground" is completely surrounded by a metal fence that has four gates. The gates
18 are padlocked from the outside every night at midnight and remain locked until 5:00 am
19 the next morning.
20

21 7. The temperature in Sacramento for the last three days has been between 91 and 101
22 degrees. When I first came here about three weeks ago, a heat wave occurred. Camp
23 management ordered us out of our tents because they told us that the temperature inside
24 was going to go up to 115 degrees Fahrenheit. However, since the current heat wave
25 began, Camp management has said nothing and made no effort to check on us or help us
26 even though the temperature inside the tents now is around 120 degrees. Even at night
27 the tents are unbearably hot because the asphalt parking lot on which our tents sit
28

1 absorbs and retains heat that you can be burned just by touching it. For the last few

2 nights, I have awakened covered in sweat, the tent filled with puddles of sweat.

3 8. There are only about four 5-gallon containers of water that have to be shared by all fifty
4 of us as well as by about ten service and support dogs that live here. That comes out to
5 about six pints (or six 8-ounce glasses) of water for each of us for all day and all night
6 and is really less because of the water that goes to the animals.

7
8 9. We run out of water very quickly and management does not refill the containers more
9 than two or three times a day. Sometimes we go hours without water. Other than what is
10 brought in, there is no other source of water in the camp. There are no coolers in the
11 camp; there is no ice to keep the water cool so we are forced to drink very hot water as it
12 stands out in the sun and heat.

13 10. We are not provided with a breakfast and have to wait to the middle of the day to get a
14 bag lunch that consists of a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, a bag of chips, a small box
15 of raisins and one piece of string cheese. No beverage is provided.

16
17 11. Three weeks ago when the first heat wave came, we were provided with transportation to
18 a cooling center and bus passes to return. However, in the last three days, we have not
19 been provided with any information about cooling centers or transportation or bus passes
20 to get there.

21 12. The Camp management does not check to see if we are Ok in these hot tents. A person
22 could be suffering and even die from the heat and nobody would find out about. The heat
23 is making it worse for those of us who suffer from psychiatric conditions, including me.
24 People are exhausted and have no energy. This place is like a concentration camp. The
25 only ones who care about us is Crystal Sanchez and the Homeless Union.
26
27
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1 13. Many people in the "Safeground" are scared to speak out because they fear retaliation or
2 being kicked out of the camp. I am also worried about that but have decided that the
3 truth about what's going here needs to come out.

4 14. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a true and correct copy of two photographs of the
5 "Safeground" encampment: one depicts a row of tents closely packed together and
6 surrounded by a fence. The other photograph shows a tent sitting directly on the asphalt
7 parking lot in the sun.

8 I swear and affirm under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and the
9 State of California that this is a true and correct statement.
10

11 Dated: July 23, 2022

12 Executed at Sacramento, California.

13 /s/ Falisha Scott
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DOES 1 – 100,

Defendants

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**DECLARATION OF ELIZABETH
MALLARD IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFFS' REPLY TO CITY'S
OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS'
MOTION FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF TO
PREVENT LIFE-THREATENING HEAT-
RELATED INJURIES AND DEATHS TO
MEMBERS OF THE SACRAMENTO
HOMELESS COMMUNITY**

Hon. Judge Troy L. Nunley

DECLARATION OF ELIZABETH MALLARD

I, ELIZABETH MALLARD, hereby declare as follows:

1. My name is Elizabeth mallard. I am a 55-year-old woman. I have been unhoused for approximately 9 years. I take multiple medications and have been diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, hypoglycemia, and asthma. I have a history of stroke and I'm anemic. Over the past nine years, I have been victimized and had all of my positions taken by law enforcement.

Declaration of Elizabeth Mallard

- 1
- 2 2. Within the last month, Sacramento code enforcement came out and removed my vehicle,
- 3 which was my only mode of transportation to doctor's appointments and for my safety. I was
- 4 staying off of Florin road. They did not ticket or tag my vehicle, they just took it. They
- 5 offered us no resources in fact nobody even talked to us; they just came and took our stuff.
- 6
- 7 3. I have been struggling in this heat and we are receiving no water or supplies from the city or
- 8 county. The Sacramento homeless Union has provided some water through the union
- 9 members but it's not enough. The Sacramento homeless Union also provided gas for my
- 10 generator, but not enough. The city and county continue to place us in danger. I had safety
- 11 when I had a way to lock myself inside. I fear for my life being out on these streets. The heat
- 12 makes my illnesses worse and could kill me; it is a hopeless feeling because we cannot
- 13 access resources. They tell us to call 211, which leads us to nothing.
- 14
- 15 4. No one has told us anything about cooling centers or helped us get to one. I would go if they
- 16 did so.

17 I swear and affirm under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and the State

18 of California that this is statement is true and based on personal knowledge.

19 Dated: July 23, 2022

/s/Elizabeth Mallard

20 Executed at Sacramento, CA

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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

UNITED STATES COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SACRAMENTO HOMELESS UNION, a
local of the CALIFORNIA HOMELESS
UNION/STATEWIDE ORGANIZING
COUNCIL, on behalf of itself and those it
represents,

Plaintiffs

vs.

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO, a political
subdivision of the State of California; CITY
OF SACRAMENTO, a municipal corporation;
DOES 1 – 100,

Defendants

Case No.: 2:22-cv-01095-TLN-KJN

**DECLARATION OF LENA MARINO IN
SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S REPLY TO
CITY'S OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS'
MOTION FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF TO
PREVENT LIFE-THREATENING HEAT-
RELATED INJURIES AND DEATHS TO
MEMBERS OF THE SACRAMENTO
HOMELESS COMMUNITY**

Hon. Judge Troy L. Nunley

DECLARATION OF LENA MARINO

I, LENA MARINO, hereby declare as follows:

1. My name is Lena Marino and my date of birth is 12/23/81. I am currently living near the freeway off of a bike trail. I have been actively harassed by the rangers, and Sacramento Police Department regarding the encampment I currently reside in. We are never notified of any active cooling centers especially in this extreme heat wave. Trying to find the information is completely inaccessible as I do not have a phone.

Declaration of Lena Marino

- 1 2. I have moved down the way off of Roseville Road and now am in a shaded location. As
2 a woman on the streets, I actively seek out services. It is dangerous for women to be out
3 on the streets. Every time I have tried to reach out for services I am placed on hold and
4 oftentimes run out of charge on my phone. The city and the county do not come out here
5 to give us access to any services; the only time that they come out is to remove us. I
6 don't understand it. When it is hot out here you would think that your officials would
7 care enough about you to bring you water to make sure you're okay but they are nowhere
8 to be found. No one has come out here and told us where the cooling centers are or
9 anywhere else to go to cool off or offered a way to get to a cooling center. People in the
10 Community drive by us and shoot bb-guns and paintballs at us, they throw water at us
11 they scream profane names at us.
12
- 13 3. The police and code enforcement have been kicking us out of our encampments even
14 when it is extremely hot. Right now, I get some protection because this is a shady area.
15 If police and code enforcement kick me out of this area, I will be out in the hot sun with
16 no protection.
17
- 18 4. I have a college education. Because there are no resources, I have to spend my day
19 seeking out my survival needs for water, shelter, food. We have all races all classes all
20 religions all types of people out here being abused by the systems in place. I feel they
21 collect money for us but it never gets to us.
22
- 23 5. I used to stay at Roseville Road near the light rail. While I was out there during covid I
24 was aware that the Sacramento homeless Union had filed a lawsuit which allowed us to
25 be able to remain where we were. The union and the medical teams would come out
26 weekly oftentimes bringing resources and medical care to us. Also advising us of
27 cooling centers, wait list openings, etc. The union also brought out hand washing
28 stations at the beginning of covid which then the county brought out trash services and

1 porta potties. There are thousands of people along Roseville Road so the access was very
2 minimal but we were grateful all the same.

3 I swear and affirm under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and the State
4 of California that this is statement is true and based on personal knowledge.

5 Dated: July 23, 2022

/s/Lena Marino

6 Executed at Sacramento, CA
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